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E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: <u>EAID ENRG EPET KGHG KPAO KSCA OPDC SENV SOCI TRGY KPAL</u>
SUBJECT: SUBJECT: FORMAL INVITATIONS TO ATTEND THE
WASHINGTON INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON RENEWABLE ENERGY
(WIREC) MARCH 4-6, 2008

REF: A) STATE 138428 B) STATE 80334

ACTION REQUESTS

11. Action Requests: Consul General or appropriate senior consulate official is requested to deliver the text in paragraph 5 as a letter over Post Official's signature to either the Palestinian Authority Foreign minister or, if known, the PA's designated Minister-level head of official delegation to WIREC 2008. Post at its discretion may cc other ministers who have indicated an interest in attending WIREC. Post is asked to confirm delivery of the letter via return cable. Please include name and contact information for post's WIREC POC in the response cable.

- 12. Post is requested to inform the host government that Official Individual Country Ministerial-level delegations may consist of a maximum of 10 individuals per country, composed of up to three Ministers, including the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Energy, Agriculture, or Environment (or the equivalent Ministers covering those portfolios) and three subnational government representatives. We defer to the Palestinian Authority's Minister of Foreign Affairs (MFA) to determine their government's precise makeup of the 'Official WIREC Ministerial Delegation,' as well as to inform us of their head of delegation, assuming more than one Minister-level delegate is part of the official delegation. However, we appreciate Consulate engagement with the MFA to ensure that the delegation is comprised of appropriate Ministers and subnational government representatives.
- 13. Post is requested to inform host government that each member of the delegation must submit an individual registration form to confirm attendance at WIREC 2008. Official delegates may register for the conference via the internet at http://www.usea.org/WIREC/official party registration pub 0001.pdf.
- 14. The Palestinian Authority has approached OES' contractor, the US Energy Association (USEA) to request an invitation for Dr. Omar Kettaneh, Energy Minister at the Palestinian Energy Authority. Post is requested to cc Dr. Kettaneh on the formal invitation if he is not the head of delegation.

TEXT OF LETTER

¶5. Begin text of the letter:

Dear Mr./Madam Minister: (or other appropriate salutation)

The U.S. State Department will host the Washington International Renewable Energy Conference (WIREC 2008) in Washington on March 4-6, 2008. WIREC 2008 is the third global ministerial-level event on renewable energy after Bonn in 2004 and Beijing in 2005. WIREC will serve as a global platform for ministers And senior leaders from the private sector, sub-national governments, and civil society to discuss and share information about the benefits of renewable energy, identify best practices and barriers, and consider policy options and measures needed to encourage the rapid development of renewable energy in their countries.

I am pleased to invite the Palestinian Authority to send an official delegation to WIREC 2008. Approximately 2,000 delegates will participate in the three-day conference at the Washington Convention Center, and we envision participation by U.S. Cabinet secretaries and senior White House officials.

In the spirit of the International Action Program that was agreed to at the Bonn Conference, I am inviting your government to consider making a voluntary national pledge at WIREC to accelerate the deployment of renewable energy in your territory. The consolidation of national governments' pledges, as well as pledges from other major stakeholders (sub-national governments, international organizations, the private sector, civil society, and multi-stakeholder partnerships) will be one of the major outcomes of WIREC.

I look forward to your official delegation's active Participation in WIREC 2008.

Sincerely, (insert name of Consul General or appropriate senior consulate official)

End text.

DEADLINE

16. Post is asked to deliver the formal invitation letter to the minister who has been designated to head the official delegation, if known, or, if a head of delegation has not been decided, to the foreign minister, no later than OOB Friday, February 15. Response cables should be slugged for OES for WIREC Action Group Leader Stan Specht and OES Special Assistant Camille Hill.

POC FOR QUESTIONS

17. For additional information about WIREC 2008, contact OES' WIREC Action Group Leader Stan Specht (OES/PCI) at SpechtSH@state.gov and consult the official WIREC website at www.wirec2008.gov.